Regulations, 2000. However, there is no obligation for the insurance companies to conduct business for persons below poverty line or state-wise.

Settlement of Mediclaims

2708. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 31 given in the Rajya Sabha on 18th February, 2003 and state:

(a) the number and name of the designated hospitals recognised for the purpose of settlement of mediclaims of the policy holders in the different States;

(b) whether the number of such hospitals is inadequate to the actual requirements which often lead to a delay in the settlement of claims;

(c) if so, whether there is any proposal to augment their number and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the maximum amount of cashless mediclaims admissible under the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Transfer of Income Tax appeals

2709. SHRI MOOL CHAND MEENA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to recommend the transfer and hearing of income tax appeals against Search and Seizure of Companies to Delhi for final decision; and

(b) if so, who will be the appellate authorities?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) and (b) There is no proposal for transfer and hearing of Income-tax appeals against search & seizure cases of Companies to Delhi.